

# TODAY and TOMORROW

FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

the Fair the city will have a huge waterfront park to play in. San Francisco's Fair of 1939 will be on a brand-new island in beautiful San Francisco Bay. "Treasure Island" has been dredged-up from the bottom of the bay, over a rocky shoal which used to be a danger to ships. When the Fair is over the people of San

Francisco and the cities east of the Bay in Alameda county will have left a beautiful recreation spot. . . . OCCASION . . . for fairs All the World's Fairs I know about have had an occasion or an excuse for being held at a certain place at a given time, usual-

ly to celebrate an anniversary of some important event. Philadelphia celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and 50 years later its Sesqui-Centennial. Chicago's Fair of 1893 was the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America, commemorated a year late. St. Louis was also a year late in celebrating

the 100th anniversary of the Louisiana Purchase. The occasion for the New York World's Fair in 1939 is the 160th anniversary of the beginning of our American Republic. On April 30, 1789, George Washington stood on the balcony of Federal Hall, at Wall and Broad streets in New York city, and took the oath of

office as the first President of the United States of America under the new Constitution of the United States. That is what New York will celebrate with its World's Fair in 1939. It is something to celebrate. It was the world's first experiment in government of the people, by the people, for the people. Every-

body in the world said it couldn't last. Well, it has outlasted every form of government that existed in 1789. The United States is now the oldest nation in the world, as well as the happiest and most prosperous. To me it seems like a successful experiment. Read Tribune Advertisements!

**FAIRS . . . in 1939**  
In less than a year and a half from now two great fairs will throw open their gates for people to come in and see the wonders of the world all assembled in one place. One fair will be on the Atlantic coast, in New York; the other on the Pacific, at San Francisco. The New York World's Fair expects to have a hundred million visitors; San Francisco hopes for half as many. One thing is certain: 1939 will be the greatest year for travel the country has ever known.  
The New York World's Fair will be the greatest international exhibition ever held. All the nations of the world will have their own buildings on the Fair grounds where they will show the products of their countries, in the most attractive setting they can devise. Many nations have agreed to spend more than a million dollars on their exhibits. Every State in the Union will have its own pavilion to show the rest of the country what it makes or grows, and the Federal Government will depict its national activities in a \$2,500,000 exhibit.  
It would take a lifetime of travel to see as much of the world and its people as anyone can see in a couple of weeks at the World's Fair.

**EDUCATION . . . doesn't hurt**  
A great Fair is, perhaps, the greatest of all educational institutions. The education is easy to take, because it is mingled with entertainment. I have been going to World's Fairs all my life, and I can attribute a large part of my education to things I saw at the big shows, from the Philadelphia Centennial of 1876 on. As a small boy, I got my first understanding of mechanical power by watching the great Corliss engine in Machinery Hall. The huge statue sculptured out of butter indelibly impressed Minnesota's eminence as a dairy state upon my childish imagination. I saw Prof. Bell's first crude telephone and Dr. Brush's primitive electric arc light, and understood them when they came into general use a few years later.

Chicago's Columbian Exposition of 1893 taught me many things particularly about beauty in architecture. The Pan-American Exposition of 1901 certainly enlarged my knowledge of Brazil and other South American countries. I learned as much about China as I could have got in a year of travel there, at the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904, where I got acquainted with Prince Pu-Lun, nephew of the Dowager Empress.

I expect to add materially to my education at the New York and San Francisco World's Fairs of 1939, and so will everybody else who goes to either of them.

**LAND . . . man-made**  
Both the New York World's Fair and that in San Francisco are being built on "made" land, which will become public parks after the shows are over. That, too, is customary in World's Fairs. Philadelphia's Centennial left Fairmont Park as an inheritance for the people. Chicago's Columbian Exposition made what is now Jackson Park, and so on.

New York World's Fair is going up on what was a combination of mosquito-breeding swamp and ash-dumb, between the suburbs of Corona and Flushing on Long Island, close to the geographical center of the great city which covers five counties. The city bought the land for a future park and leased it to the World's Fair management, which has spent millions of dollars and an incredible amount of labor in filling the swamp, removing the ash-heaps and deepening and straightening the lakes and water-courses. After

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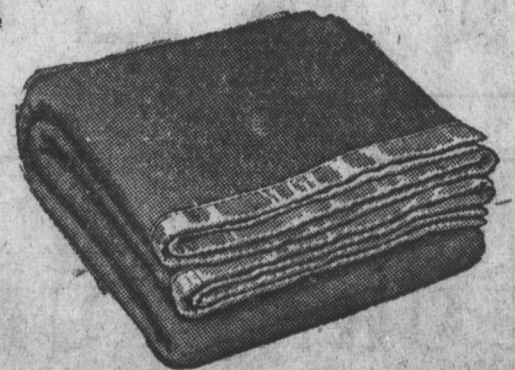
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